



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
of the County of Los Angeles**

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**Gloria Molina
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Michael D. Antonovich**
Commissioners

Carlos Jackson
Executive Director

September 12, 2006

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Community Development Commission of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

**APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR OPERATING COSTS AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
AT FOUR HOMELESS SERVICES AGENCIES IN THE CITIES OF LOS ANGELES
AND SANTA MONICA AND IN UNINCORPORATED WEST LOS ANGELES (3
(3 Vote)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that operations and services at New Directions, Inc.'s New Directions North program, located at 11303 Wilshire Boulevard, VA Building 257, in unincorporated West Los Angeles; Step Up On Second, Inc.'s Street Outreach Team, located at 1328 Second Street, in the City of Santa Monica; St Joseph Center's Homeless Services Center, located at 404 and 406 Lincoln Boulevard, in Venice; and OPCC's Daybreak and Westside Safe Haven projects, located at 1751 Cloverfield Boulevard, in the City of Santa Monica, are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as described herein, because the activities will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.
2. Approve the transfer to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) of up to \$250,000 in County general funds allocated to the Third Supervisorial District (Third District CGF), which will then be granted to New Directions, Inc. for operating costs and supportive services for one year for 50 beds at the New Directions North transitional housing program for homeless veterans.



3. Approve the transfer to LAHSA of up to \$43,000 in Third District CGF, which will then be granted to Step Up On Second, Inc. for operating costs and supportive services for one year for the Street Outreach Team to target chronically homeless and mentally ill individuals on the streets of Santa Monica.
4. Approve the transfer to LAHSA of up to \$86,000 in Third District CGF, which will then be granted to St. Joseph Center for relocation and transitional operating costs for one year for the Homeless Services Center.
5. Approve the transfer to LAHSA of up to \$200,000 in Third District CGF, which will then be granted to OPCC for transitional operating costs and supportive services for one year for 10 new emergency beds and five new transitional beds at the Daybreak for women with mental illness.
6. Approve the transfer to LAHSA of up to \$561,000 in Third District CGF, which will then be granted to OPCC for operating costs and supportive services for two years for 25 new emergency beds in the new Westside Safe Haven for chronically homeless individuals.
7. Authorize the Executive Director of the Commission to accept from the CAO the Third District CGF amounts described above, with all funds to be administered by LAHSA pursuant to an Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The purpose of the recommended actions is to transfer to LAHSA Third District CGF, which will then be granted to New Directions, Inc., Step Up On Second, Inc., St. Joseph Center and OPCC for operating costs and supportive services to enhance the homeless support system in the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The actions described herein will be funded with a portion of the \$20,000,000 in CGF approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2005 to fund the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved allocating \$3,600,000 in CGF to each Supervisorial District with a ten percent administrative fee, in the total amount of \$2,000,000, reserved for the Commission.

The proposed transfer of funds from the Commission to LAHSA includes a total of \$1,140,000 in Third District CGF, for operating costs and supportive services associated with expanding services, operations and additional beds for homeless individuals.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to address the staggering numbers of homeless individuals and families and the corresponding critical shortage of beds in Los Angeles County, on June 20, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved allocation of \$20,000,000 for the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors directed the Commission to administer the funding and oversee all of the projects. The Board also instituted a method by which each Board Office selects recipients of CGF based on agency experience and the need for homeless services in the community, among other considerations. The programs to receive funding follow.

New Directions, Inc.'s New Directions North transitional housing program is located in an unincorporated area in West Los Angeles. The Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate \$250,000 in Third District CGF for the cost of operation and supportive services, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with New Directions, Inc. Due to the loss of Federal funding, the allocation will allow the existing program to assist 50 dually diagnosed homeless veterans for one year, while new sources are identified.

Step Up On Second, Inc. will fund a Street Outreach Team for one year to work with the chronically homeless and mentally ill individuals on the streets of Santa Monica. The Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate \$43,000 in Third District CGF for the cost of operation and supportive services, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with Step Up On Second, Inc.

Due to the loss of an existing lease, the St. Joseph Center's Homeless Service Center is currently relocating to a new replacement facility on Lincoln Boulevard, in Venice. The Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate \$86,000 in Third District CGF for the transitional cost of operation and supportive services at the new site for one year, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with St. Joseph Center. The allocation will allow the Center to continue to provide supportive services for an estimated 2,700 homeless individuals and families for one year.

OPCC provides a network of shelters and services in Venice, Santa Monica, and other West Los Angeles communities. The Daybreak transitional housing program provides group living for women facing homelessness and mental illness. The Interagency

Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate \$200,000 in Third District CGF for the cost of operation and supportive services, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with OPCC. The allocation will allow the Daybreak to expand its existing 15 transitional beds to a total of 20 transitional beds and 10 emergency beds.

OPCC's new Safe Haven was developed to increase access to housing for hard to reach, homeless men and women who are disabled with severe mental illness, addiction and/or physical illness. The Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate \$561,000 in Third District CGF for the cost of operation and supportive services, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with OPCC. The allocation will allow the program to offer 25 new emergency beds for two years.

Complete descriptions of the New Directions North, Emergency Street Outreach Team, Homeless Service Center and Daybreak and Safe Haven projects are provided as Attachments A through D, respectively.

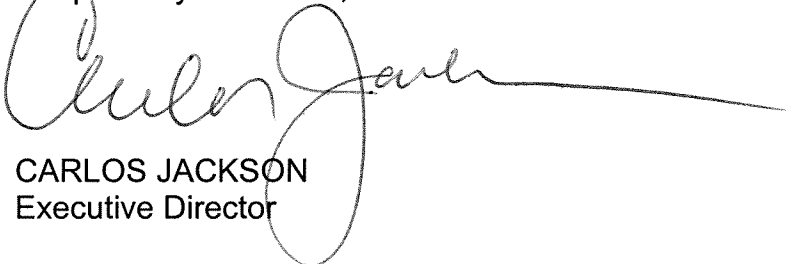
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

Pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulation, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(4), these actions are exempt from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), because they involve activities that will not alter existing environmental conditions. These activities are not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378 because they are not defined as a project under CEQA and do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

Approval of these actions will allow for an increase in transitional housing, emergency beds and services available for homeless individuals, veterans and families in the County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CARLOS JACKSON
Executive Director

Attachments: 4

ATTACHMENT A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION NEW DIRECTIONS NORTH

New Directions, Inc. operates a long-term housing and supportive services program, which provides food, shelter and rehabilitation to homeless veterans at four locations. In addition to drug abstinence, New Directions promotes the elimination of anti-social and criminal behavior, and the development of employment skills and positive behaviors. Residents leave the program with money, jobs, permanent housing, computers skills, and a new way of sober life.

The New Directions North facility is located on the grounds of the Veteran's Administration property in unincorporated West Los Angeles, and provides substance abuse treatment and mental health services for homeless veterans with co-occurring substance abuse disorders and severe, persistent mental illness. Opened in March 2002, the program currently has a 43-person capacity and treated more than 100 veterans in its first year. Each resident:

- receives substance abuse treatment,
- becomes part of the dual diagnosis recovery community
- attends 12-Step meetings and finds sponsors
- is assigned to a VA Treatment Team an interdisciplinary group of clinical staff including a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, nurse/case manager (RN) and nurse's assistant (LVN), and
- receives mental health services from the team 1-3 times a week.

The grant of CGF will enable the facility to assist 50 dually diagnosed homeless veterans for one year.

Operations Funds	\$ 250,000
Total request	\$ 250,000

ATTACHMENT B

PROJECT DESCRIPTION STEP UP ON SECOND EMERGENCY STREET OUTREACH TEAM

Step Up On Second, Inc. was founded in 1984 and is one of the premiere models for psychosocial rehabilitation as well as a nationally recognized recovery center for individuals suffering from severe and persistent mental illness. Its programs assist individuals with mental illness to develop opportunities to reintegrate into the community. Step Up is dedicated to long-term support of people in recovery and their families through the entire continuum of care, offering quality housing, educational, social and work experiences.

This community agency serves over 1,200 mentally ill individuals annually, provides 34 permanent housing units on site and is developing 46 additional units. Approximately 40% of the individuals served each year are homeless and mentally ill. Step Up offers homeless persons access to the homeless support system, providing a variety of much needed services specifically for homeless persons, such as access to showers and laundry facilities, mail pickup, money management and housing assistance. Staff helps people meet their most basic needs and, when they are ready, assists them with the move from the street into shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

This project will fund a Street Outreach Team for one year and will be leveraged with funding from a private foundation. Initially the team hands out information about the agency's programs, as well as supplies that assist with daily living such as clean socks and toiletries. Through repeated visits, the team encourages homeless persons to access the available services. The Street Outreach Team will be targeting the chronically homeless and mentally ill on the streets of Santa Monica, especially "system-resistant" individuals.

Service Funds	\$ 43,000
Total request	<hr/> \$ 43,000

ATTACHMENT C

ST. JOSEPH CENTER HOMELESS SERVICE CENTER

This project will assist St. Joseph Center, which has aided homeless individuals and families in Venice, Santa Monica and other West Los Angeles communities since 1981. Due to the loss of a lease, the Center is relocating its main facility to new quarters on Lincoln Boulevard in Venice. St. Joseph Center's varied programs have developed over the years in response to the changing needs of the community, and there are now ten programs at seven different Westside locations

St. Joseph Center offers help to more than 2,700 homeless men, women, and children each year. The Center's Homeless Services Continuum helps people meet their most basic needs and, when they are ready, assists them with the move from the street into shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

The Homeless Service Center is the hub of the St. Joseph Center's efforts to help people get off the street into a safer and healthier environment. It starts by providing basic services, allowing homeless men and women to do a load of laundry, take a shower and have access to phone and mail service. Through meetings with staff, they can also be connected with emergency shelter, medical care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and receive help with transportation and advocacy to apply for government benefits. Then when they are ready, staff assists them with the move from the street into shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing through St. Joseph's other programs.

The grant of \$86,000 will be used for transitional operating costs and supportive services for one year at the Homeless Center's new location.

Operations Funds	\$ 86,000
Total request	\$ 86,000

ATTACHMENT D

OPCC DAYBREAK AND SAFE HAVEN

OPCC (formerly known as the Ocean Park Community Center) is a network of services for low-income and homeless youth, adults, families, battered women and their children, and people living with mental illness. It is located in Santa Monica and provides a full continuum of services to the homeless in the Westside at several different locations. It is in the midst of a significant expansion to provide more beds and services. Each year, OPCC and its programs serve 12,000 individuals, approximately 85% of which are homeless and 50% are mentally ill.

OPCC's Daybreak Program includes a transitional housing program and offers a variety of services specifically designed for homeless women with long-term debilitating mental illness. Services include emergency beds, food, clothing and showers, a mailing address, support groups, case management, sleeping cots, on-site health care, counseling and benefits advocacy.

The transitional housing program offers up to six months of structured group living for a maximum of 15 women. Each resident has a private space to sleep and store her belongings, as well as access to a community kitchen, lounge and dining room. The program offers daily meals, psychiatric and medical care, permanent housing placement, support groups and workshops, case management, assistance with budgeting and self-care, counseling, benefits advocacy, and job readiness skills. Daybreak is currently adding five more transitional beds and is expanding to include emergency beds to accommodate a maximum of ten women each night.

Allocation of \$200,000 of CGF for the Daybreak Program will allow OPCC to provide the supportive services for the 10 new emergency beds and the five new transitional beds.

OPCC's Safe Haven program was developed to increase access to housing for hard-to-reach homeless men and women who are disabled with severe mental illness, addiction and/or physical illness. It serves as a point of entry to the service system providing access to basic services such as food, clothing, showers and restrooms, benefits advocacy and other supportive services. Safe Haven provides outreach and overnight residence to individuals helping them to access mental health, medical and drug and alcohol treatment services.

Safe Haven is currently being expanded and will soon offer 25 additional emergency beds. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Supportive Housing Program (SHP) provides funds for the development of supportive housing and services to allow homeless persons to live as independently as possible. OPCC has been awarded SHP funds toward the cost of supportive services for two years for the homeless persons who will occupy the new beds. However, the SHP funds will only

cover a portion of the costs, and additional funds are needed. Allocation of \$561,000 of CGF for Safe Haven will allow OPCC to provide all necessary supportive services for its increased number of clients while fundraising plans and efforts are developed to secure ongoing funding for operations.

Operations Funds

	Daybreak	\$ 200,000
	Safe Haven	\$ 561,000
Total request		\$ 761,000